

A PERSISTENT SUITOR

Miss Helen Gould Anceyed by a Man Who Wants to Marry Her.

Writes Her Letters, Calls for Her Over the Telephone, and Finally Appears to Press His Suit in Person.

"I am a free American and I have a right to fall in love with Helen Gould or any other woman if I want to. The fact that I do it doesn't show I'm crazy, but that I'm sensible." Ole Bracke, of Germania, Ia., a well-dressed man, 42 years old, said this when he was arrested in New York the other day on the charge of being insane and annoying Miss Helen Gould.

He had read so much about the philanthropist that he admired her, and as he was looking for a wife he resolved that he would give her a chance to accept him. He wrote her two weeks ago that he was coming from his western home to see her, but she took no notice of the letter.

On the morning of his arrest he put on a new equipment with which he had provided himself. It included a shiny silk hat, a light overcoat, patent leather shoes and a sunset-colored necktie. He left the Westminister hotel, where he was living, and walked confidently up Fifth avenue to Forty-seventh street, where Miss Gould dwells.

For awhile he paced up and down. After making a few laps he walked up the stoop and knocked on the door.

Detective Sergt. Krauch, who had been waiting for Bracke, ran up, seized him and carried him off to the Yorkville court.

The detective told Magistrate Crane that the prisoner had annoyed Miss Gould for a long time by writing letters to her and calling for her over the telephone.

"All that is true," Mr. Bracke admitted, "but it is not a crime to write to Miss Gould, nor is it a felony to seek to converse with her over the phone."

"I am an author of some distinction and a scholar. As you see, my personal appearance is in my favor. In every way I should be a desirable addition to the visiting list of any honorable lady," and he smiled with great self-satisfaction.

"My letters to her were couched in the most respectful terms," he went on, "and there was nothing in them that justified the police in effecting my capture."

Bracke was sent to Bellevue to have his sanity inquired into.

MINISTER MAKES AN ARREST.

Stops Divine Service and Seizes Two Men Wanted for Robbery.

A new departure has been added to the ordinary avocations of the local minister in the little town of Spanishburg, Va. In addition to being a most devout and energetic proponent of the Gospel, the local minister is also a deputy sheriff, and in both callings he is recognized as one of the most vigorous in all the mountain districts. The other evening while holding the regular semi-weekly service, two broad-backed mountaineers strolled into the temple of worship to "get the word." The minister had just begun to read the first hymn when his keen eye caught sight of the two curious but imprudent mountaineers. In a flash the opened hymn book was closed and hastily laid upon the railing of the pulpit. A second later the man of God was moving rapidly toward the innocent-looking men of the mountains holding in his hand a full-cocked revolver.

In a trice both were firmly coupled together with a pair of strong, heavy iron handcuffs. Then, coolly and very distinctly, the minister read to his prisoners warrants charging them with robbery. Finishing, he escorted his captives to a seat near the pulpit and, laying his revolver in an easy-reaching distance, finished the hymn and the evening service. He then escorted his prisoners to jail, where they are now awaiting a hearing.

WON THE MEDAL HIMSELF.

Waukegan's Mayor Is a Married Bachelor with Twins and a Record.

Dr. William W. Pearce, the young mayor of Waukegan, Ill., is being overwhelmed with honors.

The news that he was the first married member of the Waukegan Bachelors' club to become the father of twins, and as such won the \$50 gold medal offered by himself, was recently heralded abroad. The twins appear to be bearers of good luck, for again he has been chosen mayor, although by the narrow margin of 15 votes.

The Bachelors' club, too, of which he was the first president, hastens to do him renewed honor. His official and fatherly accomplishments seemed to entitle him to a further exhibition of their esteem. So, at their annual meeting, Mayor Pearce was once again elected president of the club, even if it does openly and flagrantly violate the by-law prohibiting a married member filling that office.

In accepting the honor President Pearce stated that his \$50 gold medal for twins would still remain up, and that, further, he would offer a \$75 medal to any fellow member who could beat the new president's record.

The Stupidest Dogs.
An experienced dog thief who has stolen more than 1,000 animals says that he never takes any but pet dogs, as they are the stupidest of dogs.

Turkish Tax on Male Children.
For every son born into the family of a Turkish subject a military tax, amounting to about two dollars a year for each person, has to be paid.

ITS FINANCIAL HISTORY.

Interesting Report Regarding Manila Received from United States Consul Williams.

An interesting report on the financial history of Manila has been received from Consul Williams, which says: "In old times gold money was used here to such an extent that silver was at ten per cent. premium. Later gold was exported, and in 1883 already one-half to one and one-half per cent. premium was paid for it. When it was too late to keep gold here the government prohibited the importation of Mexicans, and in 1887 joined to that law a decree according to which only Mexicans dated before 1878 had any legal value. So our currency consisted of Mexicans of older dates than 1878, of Spanish Carolus and Spanish Fernando dollars, and a great quantity of half dollars."

"The export of the Philippines has always been greater than the import; and therefore the tendency of exchange was to rise continually, and money became scarcer and scarcer. So it happened that, the import of Mexicans being forbidden, and no other money produced, premium on Hong-Kong went up to 14 per cent. and more. Then some large sums were smuggled in, and the premium went down again. During more than ten years our money market was adjusted by smuggling Mexicans from Hong-Kong. In 1897 the Spanish government minted Philippine dollars in Spain, which contained about ten per cent. less silver than the Mexicans, and sent several millions here. The public had to take these dollars at full value. We believe that all these light dollars are still in the country. The half dollar and 20-cent piece which the government minted never came to the full value of Mexican currency."

DIED TRUE TO HER PROMISE.

Kept the Vows Made Her Lover Thirty-Seven Years Ago Until Released by Death.

The death of Miss Mina Kessinger, near Jackson, O., the other day, adds the final chapter to an unusual love story. Thirty-seven years ago Miss Kessinger, then living on a farm near Jackson, O., bade her soldier lover, John Trehearne, good-by as he marched off to war. She gave him sacred promises to remain faithful. One day a letter came from hospital headquarters announcing Trehearne's death. The nurse said the soldier with his dying breath had asked that his sweetheart be informed of his death and to state that he died true to his vows and with her name on his lips.

When Miss Kessinger finished reading the letter she dropped on her knees and registered a solemn vow never to leave the farm, but to remain in seclusion and faithful to her soldier lover unto death. She kept her vow. Although living only a mile from Jackson, the county seat, she never placed her foot inside of the corporate limits of the little city and has never been more than 100 yards from the farm which was her own in 37 years.

DUG UP IN EGYPT.

Two Remarkable Statues Discovered on Upper Nile—One Is an Alabaster God.

Two of the most remarkable statues ever found were recently unearthed by M. Georges Legrain, a French Egyptologist, from the ruins of the temple at Karnak, on the Upper Nile. One of these is an alabaster and represents the great Theban god Ammon.

This alabaster god is 18 feet high, and was originally made from one solid block of stone, the largest alabaster statue in the world. It was found in three pieces, which were easily put together. The artistic finish is perfect.

The second statue is one that was set up by King Useratesen I. in honor of his father back in the days of Abraham. On the lap of this effigy is a slab upon which are carved inscriptions proving the work's antiquity.

Accompanying M. Legrain when he made the discovery was Charles N. Crewdson, corresponding secretary of the Chicago Society of Egyptian Research, who is touring Egypt in the interest of the society he represents and photographing Egypt in colors for the International Color Photo company.

WILL FLY, FLOAT OR DIVE.

Said to Have Invented an Aerial, Submarine and Sailing Ship.

J. P. Brady, a Chicago capitalist, is said to have perfected a combination flying, submarine and sailing ship. It will be propelled by the new force, liquid air. The story is guarded by Mr. Brady, but the secret was recently learned by Dr. Cunningham, a prominent dentist of St. Louis, who had business relations with him.

The inventor learned that Cunningham was a scientist and grew confidential and showed him charts and drawings which he said were the complete plans just returned to him from Edison's laboratory at Orange, N. Y. The model, he said, was built by Edison and proved a perfect success. In fact, Brady says that Edison wrote him that it was the most successful machine of its kind ever got up. In support of his statement, Dr. Cunningham says, Brady exhibited letters which were signed by Edison and bore out his story.

Swiss Imports and Exports.

During 1898 Switzerland's imports exceeded its exports by \$64,000,000. It seems queer that a great share of the imports consisted of watches.

Russian Pilgrims.

It is estimated that 30,000 or 40,000 Russians visit the Holy Land each year.

An Insect Destroyer.

It is computed that a cow destroys 700,000 insects in a year.

ABOUT PLAYED OUT.

Rag-Time Music Has Got to Give Place to Something Else.

This Popular Style of Melody Has Run Its Course—Now for a Season of Sentimental Ballads.

"Rag-time music," said the man who stands behind the counter in a Wabash avenue shop in Chicago and ladies old harmony by the cord all day long, "rag-time music is about played out. It has had its day. Last fall and winter and the fall and winter before that our very best people were telling each other to take their clothes and go or announcing that they didn't like no cheap men. The formula for writing this sort of stuff is: Two bars of overcoat music and four barbershop chords. You never heard of 'overcoat music'? Well, you will find often in theatrical journals an advertisement which reads: 'Wanted—One heavy. Must be able to double with brass.' That means that he must be able to mouth the lines of the tremendous villain and take his part with a tuba in the street parades."

"These fellows travel about the country in the winter time, they all wear overcoats on their parades and the music is jammed into the right side pocket. It is of the simplest kind, of course. You may depend upon it that next winter a different class of songs will catch the public. Sentimentals are about due to come to the front. We have not had a 'Sweet Marie' season in some years. These things work in cycles. One winter it is love and two winters it is comies or 'nigger singing.' Of course, anything that's got 'mother' in it goes all of the time. The first fellow who comes along next September with a moan about moonlight and dear eyes and tender tones and a bruised heart is going to stack up like a pile of blues a mile high. Stuff concerning possums and razors and he's 'n'tly was good to me isn't wanted."

FOR GOETHE ANNIVERSARY.

Memorial Services Planned for August 28 in This Country and in Germany.

Imposing ceremonies will be held in this country and in Germany on August 28 of this year, this being the one hundred and fifteenth anniversary of Goethe's birth. In many American cities, and especially in Chicago, New York, Cleveland and Milwaukee, there are Goethe societies, and the members of these organizations are already making arrangements to fitly honor the great poet. Banquets will be held on this day wherever German-Americans congregate.

In Germany the ceremonies will be especially notable. In Frankfurt-on-the-Main a great historical exhibition will be held, the features of which will be documents relating to the life and works of Goethe. Most of these treasures will come from the Goethe museum and Goethe house in that city, and among them will be manuscripts, portraits and copies of the first editions of his works.

Fifty years ago the anniversary of his birthday was also celebrated in Chicago, the principal figure on the occasion being the learned bookseller, Solomon Hirzel, whose fine collection of Goethe relics is now in the Leipzig library. On the coming anniversary Goethe will be honored at Leipzig not only by the city, but also by the university and by the members of all the theaters.

In Strassburg, whither Goethe went to study after leaving Leipzig, and where he formed a close intimacy with Herder, a statue of the poet will be erected. In the towns, near the Rhine, and especially in Dusseldorf, the day will be appropriately celebrated.

CENTENARIAN'S TRIP ON FOOT.

Long Walk from Frisco to New York to Be Attempted by an Aged Athlete.

Relatives at Columbus, O., have received word from Goddard Ezekiel Dodge Diamond, aged 103, stating that he will start May 1 from San Francisco on a walking tour to New York city and will pass through Columbus on his way.

Mr. Diamond says that he has faithfully practiced three things in the last half century. The first is that of breathing the freshest air possible in long, deep draughts. Second, the selection and eating of the best bone and blood-making food. Third, the use of pure water at certain time and temperature. He says:

"When I began to prepare the body for long and healthy life I left out of my diet slaughtered meats entirely. I ate grains, fruits, nuts and vegetables, drank boiled or distilled water. I take a sponge bath every night, after which I rub olive oil in each of my joints. I have never used a pipe, cigar or cigarette, never indulged in wine or any intoxicating liquor, omitting entirely the use of coffee and tea. For more than half a century I have lived the life of a vegetarian. If I live till May, 1899, I will be 103 years old, and will start for New York city, walking the trip. I am able to walk 20 miles per day."

City Ownership in Manchester.

The city of Manchester, England, has added to the numerous other enterprises conducted under municipal direction for the benefit of the taxpayers manufacturing of soap, tallow, oil, glue and fertilizer. These industries are operated in connection with the garbage and sewerage departments.

Earnings of a London 'Bus.

A London omnibus earns on an average \$11 per day from passengers and \$25 per day from advertisers.

THE SMALL BILL SHORTAGE.

Due in Some Cases to Bankers Failing to Send in Large Bills in Exchange for Small Ones.

United States Treasurer Ellis H. Roberts, who is on a business trip to New York city, in talking of the scarcity of bills of small denominations throughout the country, said: "This lack of small bills is due in some parts of the country to the fact that the bankers don't take the trouble to send in their bills of large denominations and get some ones in exchange. This is the case nearly everywhere except in the larger cities of the east and in the northwestern states."

"In the northwest there has been such a wave of prosperity during the last two years that the bankers and merchants have had no occasion to send their money east, as they did in previous years. They are rich enough to keep their money at home."

"There was a lack of small bills in New York city up to a few months ago, but now the bankers, merchants and business men of every kind have all the small bills they want. They have got them by sending on their larger bills. The revenue stamps on checks have probably had something to do with bringing into more general use the smaller bills."

"The reason we cannot issue the smaller bills as fast as the bankers want them is because we are restricted by law. The law allows us to issue only \$346,000,000 in United States notes, and the silver certificates are restricted by the number of standard dollars held in the treasury. We are now printing only small bills, and have a big supply on hand, but cannot issue them because of the restrictions I have mentioned. So the only recourse for the banks that want small bills is to send in large bills in exchange for them. In the ten sub-treasuries throughout the country there is now \$242,000,000 in gold, but only \$18,000,000 in paper. We are sending out paper money in bills of small denominations now at the rate of about \$3,000,000 a week. But a good part of this is sent out in place of old and mutilated bills. Although there is a shortage of small bills in circulation, the treasury was never richer in funds than it is at the present time."

CECIL RHODES IN A NEW ROLE.

South African Leader Almost Preaches a Sermon in Favor of the Salvation Army.

Cecil Rhodes appeared the other afternoon in a new role at London, sermonizing at the Mansion house to the Salvation Army. It was a semi-religious function on social work of the Salvation Army. Lord Aberdeen, Lord Loch, Lord Monckswell, and Lord Justice Riggby were present, the lord mayor presiding.

Rhodes wasn't down on the list of speakers, but was suddenly called upon to address the meeting. He good-humoredly complied, and took off his overcoat, squared his broad shoulders, and stepped briskly to the front of the platform.

He praised the operations of the Salvationists in South Africa. The Cape cabinet, after inquiring what the army had done, found it had given homes to waifs and strays, had picked up the fallen, and had given them, when released, another chance in life. He said:

"The practical form which the Cape parliament took of the work done was a vote in aid, which had been continued since. There are 15 other colonies all told," continued Rhodes, "where grants in aid have been made to the army, not on a sentimental basis, but as a practical return for the work the army does. In my own church there are many disputes, but let us put all those details aside and recognize that we all are human beings, be it as an officer of the Salvation Army or as a minister of the church, engaged in working for the elevation of humanity."

Mr. Rhodes donated \$1,000 to the army.

GIVES HIS ALL TO POOR.

Mr. How Thinks He Has No Right to Money He Has Not Earned.

J. Eads How, of St. Louis, a nephew of the late James B. Eads, the engineer, is wealthy in his own right, but believes that he has no right to money not earned by his own hands. Much of his property is in the form of real estate, which is so tied up that he cannot dispose of it, but he at times comes into possession of ready cash. This was the case the other day, when he received \$2,700. He went at once to the mayor's office at the city hall and asked him to take charge of it and expend it for the poor of the city.

The mayor could not undertake to become the trustee, so he turned the young man over to the health commissioner, who suggested that the money be given to the fund for the erection of the new city hospital, as being the best way to reach the greatest number of poor. Mr. How was more in favor of direct relief to the poor, but promised to consider the proposition.

Mr. How has long been an earnest worker among the poor. He is an ardent social reformer and lives himself among the poorer classes, especially among the foreigners, whom he endeavors to help both morally and physically.

Can Fire 2,700 Shots an Hour.

The Vienna Fremdenblatt reports the invention of a rifle capable of firing 2,700 shots an hour. The magazine of the new weapon holds 15 cartridges. Tests are being made at the imperial arsenal.

Average of Wheat.

It is estimated that, the globe over, about 163,000,000 acres of land are under wheat.

A Thresher Feeder

that has every advantage of efficiency, convenience and economy over all other feeders is the Nichols-Shepard Self-feeder. It feeds either bound or loose grain evenly and steadily, without waste or litter, and completely regulates itself to the speed of the separator. The feeding apron stops and starts automatically and the feeder can be stopped while the separator is in full motion. It is held rigidly in place when attached to the separator frame and its adjustable supports keep it always perfectly level. This Self-feeder is designed for the

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Large illustrated catalogue that tells all about the Nichols-Shepard Separator and its improved attachments, and the Nichols-Shepard Traction Engine mailed free.

CORKING GOOD STORIES.

GENUINE FUN SERVED UP IN SHORT STORIES.

Pat's Lament Over the Hardship of His Friend's Having to Take a Supply of Coal With Him, Is Funny.

An Irishman who wished to come to America shipped on board a vessel as a sailor. During the voyage across the Atlantic a friend of his, who was also a sailor, died. Pat had known him in the old country. It is the custom when a person dies at sea to sew the body up in a sack, hang a weight to it to make it sink, and drop it overboard with a prayer. Well, when O'Rourke died they had no shot to weight it with, so had to put in two or three big lumps of coal instead. Pat was there to see the last of his friend. When the sack was lowered into the water Pat said, with tears in his eyes: "O! always knew O'Rourke to be a bad man, and O! often told him where he was going! phin he told, but O! didn't think he'd have to take his own coal with him."

A physician and his friend were standing on the street corner of a Virginia town where they were spending a few days. Their attention was amusingly arrested by the sight of an old darky belaboring the flanks of a mule in a vain persuasion to make him move on. At last the doctor was appealed to. "Say, boss, I'll give you five dollars if you'll make dis hyar mule go." With a sly wink the physician opened his case and took out his hypodermic syringe, filled the needle with an acid and sent it into the hind quarters of the mule. The effect was magical. With a wild plunge the mule went tearing the street, with the darkey after him and the bystanders roaring with laughter. A short time afterward the darkey, dust-covered and panting, approached again.

"Say, boss—how much—was de wuf—of dat stuff—yo' done squib—int de mule?"

"Oh," said the doctor, "about 10 cents."

Down went the darkey's hands into his jeans pockets. He fished out two dimes.

"Hyah, boss—am 20 cents. I wish—yo' would squib—twice as much of dat, stuff into me—case I've bound—to catch dat mule."

Footie, praising the hospitality of the Irish, after one of his trips to the sister kingdom, a gentleman asked him if he had ever been at Cork. "No, sir," replied Footie, "but I have seen many drawings of it."

At Killarney every visitor hears some laughable stories. Here is one: A number of boatmen who were quarreling about the division of "tips" indulged at the top of their voices in a good deal of profane language, which the marvelous echo repeated verbatim.

"Arrah, look at that, now, for a scandal," said one of the party, who was of a pious turn of mind. "Tachin' the poor harmless echo to curse and swear."

The construction of Prince Bismarck's sentences was frequently portentous. On the occasion to which I have been particularly referring, says a writer in the Century, my companion was as impatient as only an intelligent woman can be to secure the intellectual treat before her and gave minute instructions to her interpreter. All went well for a time, as the low voice of the painstaking translator rendered with some adequacy the thought of Bismarck. Then there were short pauses, followed by rapid little summaries of what had been said. As these grew more and more frequent the lady became irritated. Finally there was an entire cessation on the part of the interpreter and yet Bismarck was going right on with ever-increasing vehemence. There were constant calls from the lady of "What's he saying? What's he saying?" and an increase of impatience in the box quite proportionate to the growing violence of the speaker. Finally the wretched interpreter could endure the strain no longer, and, turning with a gesture of fierce resentment to his excited employer, he hissed: "Madam, I am waiting for the verb!"

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